

# Categorical Exclusion Determination

Bonneville Power Administration

Department of Energy



**Proposed Action:** Sickler Control House Door Replacement and NERC-CIP Upgrades

**Project Manager:** Sean LeFreniere—NWM-1

**Location:** Douglas County, Washington

**Categorical Exclusion Applied (from Subpart D, 10 C.F.R. Part 1021):** B1.3 Routine Maintenance

**Description of the Proposed Action:** Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) proposes to perform North American Electric Reliability Corporation's Critical Infrastructure Protection (NERC-CIP) upgrades to the front door of the Sickler Substation control house. The subject door is in poor condition and has been proposed to be replaced. The Sickler Substation, built in 1968, is eligible for listing as a historic district to the National Register of Historic Places. Therefore, an in-kind door replacement would take place replicating the original door, as much as possible.

**Findings:** In accordance with Section 1021.410(b) of the Department of Energy's (DOE) National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Regulations (57 FR 15144, Apr. 24, 1992, as amended at 61 FR 36221-36243, July 9, 1996; 61 FR 64608, Dec. 6, 1996, 76 FR 63764, Nov. 14, 2011), BPA has determined that the proposed action:

- (1) fits within a class of actions listed in Appendix B of 10 CFR 1021, Subpart D (see attached Environmental Checklist);
- (2) does not present any extraordinary circumstances that may affect the significance of the environmental effects of the proposal; and
- (3) has not been segmented to meet the definition of a categorical exclusion.

Based on these determinations, BPA finds that the proposed action is categorically excluded from further NEPA review.

/s/ Beth Belanger

Beth Belanger

Contract Environmental Protection Specialist

Motus Staffing & Recruiting

Reviewed by:

/s/ Gene Lynard

Gene Lynard

Supervisory Environmental Protection Specialist

Concur:

/s/ Sarah T. Biegel

Date: August 31, 2016

Sarah T. Biegel

NEPA Compliance Officer

Attachment: Environmental Checklist

## Categorical Exclusion Environmental Checklist

This checklist documents environmental considerations for the proposed project and explains why the project would not have the potential to cause significant impacts on environmentally sensitive resources and would meet other integral elements of the applied categorical exclusion.

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### Project Site Description

The project location is at the Sickler Substation, in eastern Washington. The control house at Sickler is located in Township 24 North, Range 20 East, Section 35. The site is on the eastern bank of the Columbia River, located between Lincoln Rock State Park and Highway 97. The habitat at the site consists of a shrub/steppe ecosystem.

A review of the National Wetland Inventory, soil information, topography, and aerial photos did not reveal any wetlands or water bodies at the site.

### Evaluation of Potential Impacts to Environmental Resources

Environmental Resource Impacts	No Potential for Significance	No Potential for Significance, with Conditions
1. <b>Historic and Cultural Resources</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p><u>Explanation:</u> On April 22, 2016, BPA initiated Section 106 consultation with Washington Department of Archaeology &amp; Historical Preservation (DAHP), Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation, and Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation.</p> <p>The BPA historian evaluated the facility and determined that the substation is eligible for listing, as a district, to the National Register of Historic Places. On June 23, 2016, DAHP concurred with the determination of eligibility.</p> <p>The door replacement project was determined to have no adverse effect to this historic resource. Determination of effect letters were sent to consulting parties on July 28, 2016. DAHP concurred with the no adverse effect findings on August 02, 2016. The Confederated Tribes of the Colville responded with no interest on August 26, 2016. The Confederated Tribes and Bands of Yakama Nation did not respond.</p>		
2. <b>Geology and Soils</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p><u>Explanation:</u> No ground disturbance proposed.</p>		
3. <b>Plants</b> (including federal/state special-status species)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p><u>Explanation:</u> No disturbance to plants would occur.</p>		
4. <b>Wildlife</b> (including federal/state special-status species and habitats)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p><u>Explanation:</u> No disturbance to wildlife would occur.</p>		

5. **Water Bodies, Floodplains, and Fish**  
(including federal/state special-status species and ESUs)



Explanation:

No water bodies present in the work area.

6. **Wetlands**



Explanation:

No wetlands present.

7. **Groundwater and Aquifers**



Explanation:

No impact to groundwater or aquifers.

8. **Land Use and Specially Designated Areas**



Explanation:

All work within existing control house.

9. **Visual Quality**



Explanation:

The proposed door replacement would be similar to the existing door; therefore, there would be no change to the visual quality of the building.

10. **Air Quality**



Explanation:

No impact to air quality.

11. **Noise**



Explanation:

Minimal temporary construction noise.

12. **Human Health and Safety**



Explanation:

This project will improve the safety of workers and equipment at the control house by increasing physical security to the building.

### **Evaluation of Other Integral Elements**

The proposed project would also meet conditions that are integral elements of the categorical exclusion. The project would not:

- Threaten a violation of applicable statutory, regulatory, or permit requirements for environment, safety, and health, or similar requirements of DOE or Executive Orders.

Explanation, if necessary:

- Require siting and construction or major expansion of waste storage, disposal, recovery, or treatment facilities (including incinerators) that are not otherwise categorically excluded.

Explanation, if necessary:

- Disturb hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants, or CERCLA excluded petroleum and natural gas products that preexist in the environment such that there would be uncontrolled or unpermitted releases.

Explanation, if necessary:

- Involve genetically engineered organisms, synthetic biology, governmentally designated noxious weeds, or invasive species, unless the proposed activity would be contained or confined in a manner designed and operated to prevent unauthorized release into the environment and conducted in accordance with applicable requirements, such as those of the Department of Agriculture, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the National Institutes of Health.

Explanation, if necessary:

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### **Landowner Notification, Involvement, or Coordination**

Description: The project is occurring on BPA fee-owned land. There would be no visual or other effects to adjacent landowners.

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Based on the foregoing, this proposed project does not have the potential to cause significant impacts to any environmentally sensitive resource.

Signed: /s/ Beth Belanger                      Date: August 31, 2016  
Beth Belanger  
Contract Environmental Protection Specialist  
Motus Recruiting & Staffing